



NEWS RELEASE



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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NEBRASKA 2003 CROP PRODUCTION ABOVE YEAR AGO

LINCOLN, Neb., August 12, 2003 - Based on August 1 conditions, Nebraska's 2003 **corn** crop is forecast at 1.03 billion bushels, 10 percent above 2002, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Acreage to be harvested for grain remained unchanged at 7.65 million, up 4 percent from last year. Average yield is forecast at 135 bushels per acre, 7 bushels above last year's drought damaged crop and 4 bushels above the 10-year average. With exception to portions of the northeast, short soil moisture supplies have again limited dryland yields across much of the state.

Soybean production in Nebraska is forecast at 191 million bushels, 8 percent above last year but 14 percent below the record crop of 2001. Acres for harvest, at 4.65 million, are second highest on record. Yield is forecast at 41 bushels per acre, up 2.5 bushels from 2002, but down 4.5 bushels from two years ago.

Nebraska's 2003 **winter wheat** crop is forecast at 83.3 million bushels, up 4 percent from last month's forecast, and 71 percent above last year's drought damaged crop. Average yield is forecast at a record high 49 bushels per acre, 2 bushels above last month, and 17 bushels above last year. Acreage for grain, at 1.7 million, is unchanged from last month.

Sorghum yield is forecast at 61 bushels per acre, up 11 bushels from last year. Production is forecast at 31.1 million bushels, over twice the production level of 2002. **Oat** yield is forecast at a record high 75 bushels per acre. The production forecast of 8.3 million bushels is over three times the 2002 production and the highest since 1992. **Sugarbeet** production of 876 thousand tons is up 15 percent from 2002. **Dry edible bean** production, at 2.94 million cwt., is down 15 percent from last year. **Alfalfa hay** production is forecast at 4.8 million tons, up 18 percent from last year, and **all other hay** production is up 31 percent.

Access the National publication for this release at:
<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/field/pcp-bb/2003/crop0803.pdf>

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